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BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,
March 1, 1843.

Read and ordered to be printed.

REPORT

OF THE

SELECT COMMITTEE,

IN REGARD TO THE

Tobacco Damaged at Warehouses Nos. 2 & 3,

IN THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.

REPORT.

The select committee to which was referred an order of this House, directing an enquiry into the extent of damage sustained in Tobacco Warehouses Nos. 3 & 2, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report:

That Mr. Nicholas Dorsey, Inspector at No. 3, informed them that no injury had been sustained in that house.

In No. 2 Warehouse, the Inspector, Joseph S. Wilson, has exhibited the damage incurred, which shows of uninspected tobacco, eighty-two hogsheads to have been injured, and the absolute loss of pounds to have been twelve thousand, eight hundred and ninety-two; and of inspected tobacco, two hundred and fifty-eight hogsheads to have been injured, and the absolute loss of pounds thirty-nine thousand, two hundred and twenty-two—in all, three hundred and forty hogsheads damaged, and fifty-two thousand, one hundred and fourteen pounds of tobacco rendered worthless.

Your committee being fully persuaded that the sufferers as above should be indemnified for the loss and injury which they have sustained, have taken great pains to enable them to arrive at the damage incurred, in dollars and cents, and find it to be four thousand, one hundred and thirty-nine dollars. In nearly every instance the exhibits have been accompanied with the certificate of the Inspector, and an affidavit of the consignee as to the truth of the statement, and in all cases the certificates of the Inspector and the affidavits of the claimants have accompanied the statements. As the consignee is the very best judge of the value of the tobacco, and in no way interested, the committee have thought his evidence conclusive; and the high standing of the residue of claimants preclude a possibility of doubt.

From the very nature of the policy of the State, the planter is compelled to send his tobacco to the city of Baltimore for inspection and safe keeping, for which one dollar and twenty-five cents per hogshead must be paid before the tobacco is suffered to be taken from the inspection houses, by which means the fund (commonly called the Tobacco Fund) is formed. The sufferers ask nothing from the State Treasury. They only ask to be reimbursed out of the fund they have contributed to create. The above tax having been required of them upon their tobacco, as though it had been kept in perfect safety, without further reasoning, your committee conclude this report by saying, that they believe it just, proper and lawful that the said sufferers should be indemnified, and therefore recommend the following resolutions:

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to pay out of any unappropriated money in the Treasury belonging to the tobacco fund, the sum of four thousand, one hundred and thirty-nine dollars, for the use and benefit of those who had tobacco damaged by the flood at No. 2 Warehouse in the city of Baltimore on the 24th of August last, as follows—to the order of

No. 1,	Thomas Macilroy,	$11 39
" 2,	James Briscoe, agent,	27 21
" 3,	Brothers Boninger,	84 45
" 4,	L. A. Jenkins, agent,	27 41
" 5,	Wesley Starr, agent,	595 25
" 6,	Isaac Owens, of Jas. agent,	67 59
" 7,	Samuel H. Whittington, agent,	128 50
" 8,	Wm. Cooke & Sons, agents,	84 01
" 9,	Thomas M. Locke, agent,	272 51
" 10,	Jos. W. & Ed. Reynolds, agents,	108 54
" 11,	John Sullivan & Sons, agents,	223 62
" 12,	James Ferguson, agent,	48 64
" 13,	Richard H. Hall, agent,	486 75
" 14,	Schear & Kuster,	93 64
" 15,	Neale & Luckett, agents,	205 41
" 16,	Chas. R. Hardesty, agent,	104 70
" 17,	Thos. I Hall, agent,	75 14
" 18,	Battee & Lowe, agent,	445 24
" 19,	Walter Mushett,	8 74
" 20,	James Cheston & Son,	51 87
" 21,	Thompson & Spalding, agents,	35 78
" 22,	Ignatius Pike, agent,	288 41
" 23,	Jacob Heald & Co. agents,	307 00
" 24,	Deeke & Gerdes,	85 39
" 25,	Albers & Co.	21 51
" 26,	Asa Needham, agent,	4 41
" 27,	Oelrichs & Lurman,	41 58
" 28,	A. Schumacher & Co.	204 31

The said parties being all residents of the city of Baltimore.

Resolved, That before the Treasurer shall proceed to pay over to the aforesaid agents or consignees, the amount claimed by them on account of the planters or owners of the aforesaid tobacco, he shall require a bond with good and sufficient security for double the amount so claimed, that they, the said agents or consignees, will pay over to each individual entitled on account of the damage aforesaid, the full and just amount to which he, she or they may be entitled without any deduction or commission as by reference to the vouchers herewith returned from Nos. 1 to 28, inclusive, will fully show, and which vouchers are hereby directed to be deposited with the Treasurer.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES S. MORSELL, *Chairman.*

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